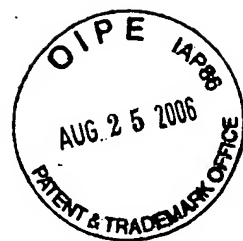


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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/541,076
	Filing Date	June 29, 2005
	First Named Inventor	Dennis CIPLICKAS
	Art Unit	2825
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	5 + 2 Refs.	Attorney Docket Number 524322000200

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	1. PTO/SB/08a/b (1 page)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	2. Two (2) References
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)		3. Return Receipt Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="text"/> Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP (Customer No. 20872) Peter J. Yim - 44,417
Signature	
Date	August 22, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: August 22, 2006

Signature: (Valerie Cohen)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

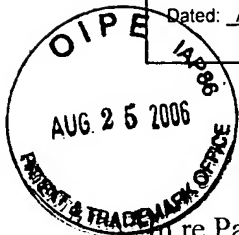
Dated: August 22, 2006

Signature:

Valerie Cohen
(Valerie Cohen)

Patent

Docket No. 524322000200



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Dennis CIPICKAS et al.

Serial No.: 10/541,076

Filing Date: June 29, 2005

For: YIELD IMPROVEMENT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 2825

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of the foreign document and non-patent literature are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.

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- ☒ **Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.**
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of ___ is enclosed.
- ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a check in the amount of ___ is enclosed.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17 is attached to this submission in duplicate.)

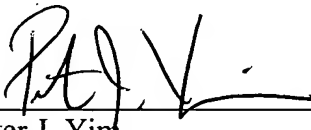
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

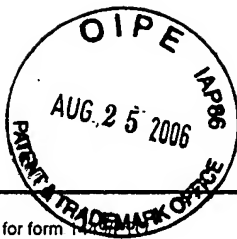
In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 524322000200.

Dated: August 22, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Peter J. Yim

Registration No.: 44,417
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
425 Market Street
San Francisco, California 94105-2482
(415) 268-6373



ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/541,076
				Filing Date	June 29, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Dennis CIPLICKAS
				Art Unit	2825
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	524322000200

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1.	US-5,946,214	08-31-1999	Heavlin et al.	
	2.	US-6,449,749	09-10-2002	Stine	
	3.	US-6,985,144	01-10-2006	Chang	
	4.	US-7,006,947	02-28-2006	Tryon et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	5.	WO-05036422	04-21-2005	PDF Solutions, Inc.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	6.	ALLAN, G., (May 2002) "Yield/Reliability Enhancement Using Automated Layout Modifications," 2002 IEEE/SEMI Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Conference and Workshop, Boston, MA, pp. 252-261.	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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